

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINGST 07487 131758Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 NSCE-00 SSO-00 EB-08
/040 W

-----029572 131801Z /43
O 131728Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8722

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINGSTON 7487

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (MANLEY, MICHAEL), JM
SUBJECT: PM MANLEY'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON: AGENDA

REF: KINGSTON 7418

1. EMBOFFS MET WITH FRANK FRANCIS, PERMANENT SECRETARY AND JOHN PICKERSGILL, CHIEF ECONOMIC SECTION OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DECEMBER 12 TO REVIEW AGENDA (SEE REFTEL) FOR FORTHCOMING CARTER-MANLEY MEETING. FRANCIS SAID PM MANLEY WANTED TO DISCUSS NIEO ISSUES IN A GENERAL WAY AND WAS NOT LIKELY TO RAISE ANY SPECIFIC PROPOSALS. NIEO AREAS WHICH THE PRIME MINISTER LIKELY TO COVER INCLUDE:

A. THE COMMON FUND NEGOTIATIONS IN GENEVA: PRIME MINISTER MANLEY WILL EXPRESS HIS DISAPPOINTMENT OVER THE FAILURE OF THE TALKS. GOJ OFFICIALS FEEL THAT DEVELOPED COUNTRIES BACKED DOWN FROM THEIR UNDERTAKINGS IN THE CIEC AND HAD NOT BEEN AS FORTHCOMING AT THE COMMON FUND NEGOTIATIONS. FRANCIS NOTED THAT THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES APPEARED TO BE SPLIT ON THE FUNDAMENTAL COMMON FUND ISSUES AND THAT A FEW OF THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES HAD "DUG IN THEIR HEELS", THEREBY MAKING AN AGREEMENT IMPOSSIBLE.

B. ENERGY: THE PRIME MINISTER WILL REVIEW THE UNDERSTANDINGS REACHED AT THE CIEC. JAMAICA'S POSITION IS SIMILAR TO THAT OF THE US IN THAT JAMAICA WOULD LIKE TO SEE AN ONGOING ENERGY CONSULTATIVE MECHANISM,
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HOPEFULLY WITH THE CAPACITY TO FINANCE EXPLORATION FOR NEW ENERGY SOURCES.

C. OVERVIEW MECHANISMS: WHETHER AND HOW THE PRIME MINISTER WILL RAISE THE SUBJECT WILL DEPEND ON DEVELOPMENTS IN NEW YORK. HOWEVER, JAMAICA PREFERS THE US POSITION ON OVERVIEW MECHANISMS BUT, ACCORDING TO FRANCIS, IT HAS HAD TO ACCEPT THE FALLBACK POSITION OF AN ALL

ENCOMPASSING UNGA COMMITTEE BECAUSE OF DISAGREEMENT WITHIN GROUP OF 77. FRANCIS EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE WOULD EVENTUALLY DWINDLE DOWN TO A FEW INTERESTED MEMBERS WHO MIGHT THEN BE ABLE TO GET THE JOB DONE. HE EXPLAINED THAT MANY OF THE MEMBERS OF THE GROUP OF 77 WHO HAD NOT PARTICIPATED IN CIEC WERE ADAMANT IN OPPOSING ANY LIMITED MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE. HE SAID JAMAICA REGRETTED THIS DEVELOPMENT.

D. THE DEBT BURDEN: THE PRIME MINISTER WILL RAISE, IN GENERAL TERMS, THE PROBLEM OF THE THIRD WORLD DEBT BURDEN POINTING OUT THAT INCREASINGLY THE PROCEEDS FROM FOREIGN LENDING DOES NOT EVEN COVER THE COST OF SERVICING OUTSTANDING DEBT. HE MAY ALLUDE SPECIFICALLY TO JAMAICA'S CASE. (NOTE: HOW MANLEY COVERS THE DEBT BURDEN SUBJECT IS LIKELY TO BE INFLUENCED BY THE DISCUSSION OF THE SUBJECT IN THE GROUP FOR CARIBBEAN ECONOMIC COOPERATION MEETING IN WASHINGTON DECEMBER 14.)

E. PROBLEMS OF MIDDLE INCOME COUNTRIES: ACCORDING TO FRANCIS, THE PRIME MINISTER WILL DISCUSS THE SPECIFIC PROBLEMS AFFECTING THOSE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WHICH DO NOT QUALIFY AS THE "POOREST OF THE POOR" BUT WHICH STILL HAVE SERIOUS DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY PROBLEMS. HE REITERATED JAMAICA'S OPPOSITION TO THE USE OF GROSS INDICATORS SUCH AS PER CAPITA GNP TO QUALIFY FOR ASSISTANCE.

2. IN ADDITION TO NIEO, FRANCIS SAID THE PRIME MINISTER WILL RAISE A NUMBER OF OTHER ISSUES:
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A. CUBA: THE PRIME MINISTER WILL EXPRESS HOPE FOR THE SPEEDY NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN CUBA AND THE US. HE WILL DISCUSS THIS IN THE GENERAL CONTEXT OF "HEMISPHERIC DETENTE" RATHER THAN IN ANY SPECIFIC SENSE.

B. BELIZE: THE PRIME MINISTER WILL REPORT BRIEFLY ON THE OUTCOME OF THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED BELIZE DISCUSSION IN KINGSTON.

C. STOCKPILING OF ALUMINA AND BAUXITE: FRANCIS SAID THE PRIME MINISTER MIGHT SUGGEST THAT THE US INCREASE ITS STOCKPILES OF BAUXITE AND ALUMINA BUT THAT A FIRM DECISION HAD NOT BEEN REACHED TO RAISE THE MATTER.

D. BENCH TERRACING: FRANCIS SAID THE PRIME MINISTER IS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN THE POSSIBILITY OF BENCH TERRACING AS AN AGRICULTURAL PROJECT WITH A HIGH LABOR INPUT AND IS CERTAIN TO RAISE THE MATTER WITH THE PRESIDENT AS A POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977KINGST07487
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770463-1221
Format: TEL
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 KINGSTON 7418
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 260503
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PM MANLEY'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON: AGENDA
TAGS: OVIP, PGOV, JM, US, (MANLEY, MICHAEL N)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e0b0c305-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009